

Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) Newsletter – September 2021

CSHCS is a secondary insurance program designed to support children with eligible chronic health conditions and their families. CSHCS is also available for adults with cystic fibrosis and bleeding disorders. Call the office for more information at 269-373-5015.



KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT
In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance
Health and Community Services Department

MSU Extension Early Childhood Programs

Extension Extras Parenting Hour is a free online series of parenting workshops that provide guidance for parents of young children as they navigate the challenges, joys, and concerns of parenting. Participants may register for as few or as many workshops as they wish. For a list of workshops and registration information, please visit:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/search?tag=child%20%26%20family%20development%20workshops&county=&contentTypeOption=calendarEvent&tagUsage=&hideHomePage=true#results>



Food Resources

The Mobile Food Initiative is one of Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes' food programs. Food is distributed on a first-come-first-served basis and there are no eligibility requirements or paperwork to fill out. Food is free to local residents and is distributed at specific sites throughout the county. The program distributes food at over eight sites each month. For more information and a schedule of upcoming 2021 distribution dates and locations, please visit:

<https://kzoolf.org/mobile-food-initiative/>

Also, for a list of community food resources, please visit:

https://kzoolf.org/files/2020/08/Food_Resources_2020.pdf

Virtual Parent Mentor Training

The Family Center for Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs (Family Center) will be hosting a free Virtual Parent Mentor Training for Michigan parents/caregivers of children with special health care needs. Training will take place from **Tuesday, September 21, 2021 to Thursday, September 23, 2021** on Microsoft Teams. The trainings on Tuesday and Wednesday will be from **9:00am-11:30am**, and Thursday will be from **9:00am-12:00pm**.

If you are a parent, caregiver, or guardian of a child/youth with special health care needs and would like to make a difference in the lives of others, please take this opportunity to become a trained Parent Mentor.

This training is open to all families who have a child with a medical, physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition. As a trained Parent Mentor, you will become a part of a statewide network of volunteer parents supporting one another, sharing resources, and helping to navigate various systems.

If you have any questions prior to the day of training, please call the Family Phone Line at 1-800-359-3722 or email adkinsd@michigan.gov

If interested, please register at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-parent-mentor-training-tickets-161809830559?aff=erelpanelorg>

For next month's Newsletter, please go to "Hot Topics" at www.kalcounty.com/hcs or find it on Facebook at www.facebook.com/KalamazooCountyHCS. If you have questions or concerns please call the Family Phone Line at 1-800-359-3722 or the Kalamazoo CSHCS Program Representative, Heather, at 269-373-5015.

COVID-19: Vaccination Information

Visit the health department at **311 E. Alcott St.** for your FREE COVID-19 vaccine. No ID required and no appointment needed. Walk-ins welcome! Clinic hours are:

Monday – Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm

COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for anyone 12 years or older. Anyone under 18 years old needs to be accompanied by a parent or guardian when being vaccinated.

New Information for immunocompromised individuals:

The CDC recommends that people with moderately to severely compromised immune systems receive an additional dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least **28 days after a second dose** of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

- **This is not considered a booster dose.**
- CDC does **not** recommend additional doses or booster shots for any other population at this time.
- People who need an additional dose should receive a third dose of the same vaccine used, unless that product is unavailable.
- For more information on COVID-19 vaccines for moderately to severely immunocompromised people, visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>.

For the most up-to-date information visit: www.kalcounty.com/covid19 or to schedule a vaccine appointment visit: <https://www.kalcounty.com/hcs/covid19vaccine.php>

You may also call the health department at 269-373-5200 and select option 1 for questions about the vaccine.

Kalamazoo County Mask Order

The Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department, pursuant to the Michigan Public Health Code, has issued a public health order requiring masks be worn by students from Kindergarten through 6th grade. This order will be lifted 6 weeks after a COVID-19 vaccine is available in our community for children 5 years of age or older. To read the full order, please visit: https://www.kalcounty.com/hcs/pdf_files/08.18.21%20KCHCS%20Mask%20Order.pdf



Kalamazoo Area FREE Events

Friday, September 17: Summer Cinema: Moana at Upjohn Park in Kalamazoo. Pre-movie music starting at 6:00pm, movie begins at 7:00pm. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/946594852553217/>

Sunday, September 19: Ranger Hike: Bug Safari in Portage: Explore woods, bogs, and more while looking for these important critters. Registration is required. For more information and to register, please visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1006919933412781/>

For additional fun things to do in Kalamazoo, please visit <https://kzookids.com/events/>.

Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services is committed to providing equitable, culturally competent care to all individuals served, regardless of race, age, sex, color, national origin, religion, height, weight, marital status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.